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U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

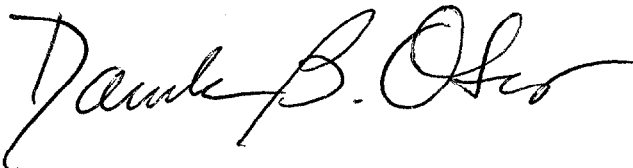
Re: Docket 98P-0151/CP1

To whom it may concern:

I believe that the USDA's new ban on the sale of ground beef from downer cows is a step in the right direction. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

In addition to the possibility of systemic unwholesomeness from disease, some downed animals may be carrying the U.S. form of Mad Cow Disease. The USDA is not seriously pursuing testing for this disease in U.S. downed cattle, and cannot say definitively that the disease is not present in the U.S. For this reason alone a ban on the sale of all downer cattle for food is prudent.

Sincerely,



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